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the directions indicated, yet it contains a vast amount of valuable knowledge carefully tabulated, and is a highly creditable first step toward supplying a recognized want; and no traveling geologist—whether beginner, amateur, or professional—can afford to be without it. The binding is not all that could be desired for a work of this character, since the covers are neither stiff enough to resist bending, nor sufficiently flexible to bend without breaking.—*W. O. C.*

RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.—*Habit and Intelligence: a series of Essays on the Laws of Life and Mind.* By Joseph John Murphy. 2d edition. Illustrated, thoroughly revised, and mostly re-written. 8vo, pp. 583. Macmillan & Co., London, 1879. From the author.

On the Annelida Chætopoda of the Virginian coast. By H. E. Webster. (Issued Jan., 1879, in advance of Vol. IX of Transactions of the Albany Institute.) 8vo, pp. 72, pls. 1–XI. From the author.

Extracts from Letters and Notices of Eminent Scientific Men and Journals in Europe and America, respecting the United States Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories. (Department of the Interior.) Under the direction of F. V. Hayden, Geologist-in-charge. 8vo, pp. 42. Washington, 1879.

The Animal, Vegetable and Mineral Kingdoms; or the Advantages to be derived from a study of "Natural History" in public and private schools. By Mrs. N. B. Walker. 8vo, pp. 18. Wilbur & Hastings, New York, 1879. From the authoress.

The Mesozoic Formation in Virginia. By Oswald J. Heinrich, Mining Engineer. (Ext. from Trans. Am. Ins. of Mining Engineers. Read at the Philadelphia meeting, Feb., 1878.) 8vo, pp. 48, with map. From the author.

The Physical History of the Triassic Formation of New Jersey and the Connecticut valley. By Israel C. Russell. (Ext. from Ann. N. Y. Acad. of Sciences, Vol. I, No. 8. 1878.) 8vo, pp. 35. From the author.

The Department of Physical Education and Hygiene in Amherst College. By Prof. Edward Hitchcock, M.D. 8vo, pp. 10. Boston, 1879. From the author.

Bulletin of the United States National Museum. No. 12—Contributions to North American Ichthyology. No. 3, A—On the Distribution of the Fishes of the Allegheny region of South Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee, with descriptions of new or little known species. By David S. Jordan and Alembert W. Brayton. B—A Synopsis of the family Catostomidæ. By David S. Jordan. (Published under the direction of the Smithsonian Institution.) 8vo, pp. 237. Washington, 1878. From the authors.

Description of a New Species of *Dolabella* from the Gulf of California, with remarks on other rare or little known species from the same region. By Robert E. C. Stearns. (Ext. from Proc. Phila. Acad. Nat. Sciences, 1878.) 8vo, pp. 395–401. From the author.

Scientific Relations of Sociology to Biology. By Prof. Joseph LeConte. 8vo, pp. 21. From the author.

Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, held at Philadelphia, for Promoting Useful Knowledge. Vol. XVIII, July to Dec., 1878. No. 102. 8vo, pp. 120. From the society.

Correspondence about Water Supply, between James Haworth, Esq., his counsel, Mr. Rob. A. Parrish, Jr., and John W. Nystrom. 8vo, pp. 25. Philadelphia, 1879. From the author.

Remarks on *Saurocephalus* and on the species which have been referred to that genus. By E. T. Newton, Esq., F.G.S., H. M. Geol. Survey. (Ext. Quar. Jour. Geol. Soc., London, Nov., 1878.) 8vo, pp. 786–796. (Published Oct. 12, 1878.) From the author.

Notes from Private Practice. Is the bite of the *Heterodon*, or spreading adder, venomous? By J. Schneck, M.D. (Ext. from Chicago Med. Jour. and Examiner.) 8vo, pp. 585–587. From the author.

Report on the Collection of Fishes made by Dr. Elliott Coues, U.S.A., in Dakota and Montana, during the season of 1873 and 1874. By David S. Jordan, M.D. (Ext. from the Bulletin of the U. S. Geol. and Geog. Surveys, F. V. Hayden, in charge. Vol. iv, No. 4.) 8vo, pp. 777-799. Washington, 1878. From the author.

Description of a New Species of *Smynthurus*. By John A. Ryder. (Ext. from Proc. Phila. Acad. Nat. Sciences, 1878.) From the author.

A Contribution to the Palæontology of the vicinity of Poughkeepsie. By T. N. Dale, Jr. (Ext. from Proc. Poughkeepsie Soc. Nat. Sciences, Dec. 4, 1878.)

Memoirs of the Geological Survey of the United Kingdom. Monograph iv—The Chimæroid Fishes of the British Cretaceous Rocks. By E. T. Newton, F.G.S., Assistant Naturalist. 4to, pp. 50, pls. xii. From the author.

Guide du Naturaliste, Revue Bibliographique des Sciences Naturelles. Bulletin Mensuel. Par A. Bouvier. (Zoologie, Géologie, Botanique.) Large 8vo, pp. 14. 1re Année, No. 1. Paris, Janv., 1879. From the editor.

Report on the Methods of Surveying the Public Domain to the Secretary of the Interior, at the request of the National Academy of Sciences. By J. W. Powell. 8vo, pp. 16. Washington, 1878. From the author.

Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, relating to the cost of geographical surveys. 8vo, pp. 6. (Washington, Feb. 7, 1879.) From the Secretary.

Letter from the Secretary of War, communicating further information in relation to a survey of the territory west of the Mississippi river, as proposed by the National Academy of Sciences. (Washington, Jan. 30, 1879.) From the Secretary.

Kæmpedovendyr—Slægten *Cœlodon*. Af J. Reinhardt. 4to, pp. 257-349, Tab. 2. (Ext. from Vidensk. Selsk. Skr. 5 Række, naturvid. og mathem. Afd. xii, 3.) Copenhagen. 1878. From the author.

Catalogue of the Birds of Granada, from a collection made by Mr. Fred A. Ober for the Smithsonian Institution, including others seen by him but not obtained. By Geo. N. Lawrence. 8vo, pp. 265-278. (Ext. from Proc. Nat. Museum.) From the author.

1er Compte-Rendu de la Commission Géologique Internationale pour l'unification des procédés graphiques. By E. Renevier. 8vo, pp. 11. Lausanne, 1879. From the author.

Notice sur L'Ouvrage de M. le Professeur Heim intitulé: Mechanismus der Gebirgsbildung im Anschluss an die Geologische Monographie der Teedi-Uindgällen-Cruppe. By E. Renevier. 8vo, pp. 9. (Ext. from Archives des Sci. Phys. et Natur. Nouvelle période, tome soixante-quatrième No. 251. 15 Novembre, 1878.) Geneve. From the author.

Un Mot sur la Pêche de la Baleine et les Premières Expéditions Arctiques. Notice lue a Séance Publique de la Classe des Sciences le 12 Decembre, 1878. Par M. P. J. van Beneden. 8vo, pp. 22. Bruxelles, 1878. From the author.

Annual Report of the Wisconsin Geological Survey for the year 1878. By T. C. Chamberlain, chief geologist. 8vo, pp. 51. Madison, 1879.

Bulletin of the United States Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories. Vol. 5. No. 1. 8vo, pp. 152. From the survey.

The Devonian Brachiopoda of the Province of Pará, Brazil. By Richard Rathbun. 8vo, pp. 14-39. (Ext. from Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., Vol. xx, May 15, 1878.)

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GENERAL NOTES.

BOTANY.

THE NUMBER OF STAMENS IN *BRASENIA PELTATA*.—There is quite a discrepancy among botanical writers regarding the number of stamens of *Brasenia peltata* Pursh, the common water-shield. A citation of a few of these, and some observations with a view to remove the differences, may not be out of place. My